SAM Fall Forum

San Diego, CA

September 20, 2006

Gary J. Lutz

WILLIS Risk and Insurance Services of CA

# Environmental Insurance: A Tool to Reduce Risk On Impaired Property Transactions

## Impaired Properties

- A Decision to Buy or Sell Impaired Property Should be Based on the <u>Financial Soundness</u> of the Deal
- Environmental Conditions or the Inability to Assess Such Conditions Can Impact the Viability of a Deal

#### **Environmental Conditions**

- Inaccurate Environmental Assessment
  - Insufficient Time to Conduct Assessment
  - Inadequate Data
  - Improper Quantification of Known Contamination
  - Unknown Contamination
- Third Party Liability
  - Bodily Injury / Property Damage
  - Cleanup

#### **Environmental Conditions**

- Inherited CERCLA Liability
- Incorrect Cost of Remediation
- Regulations Change

# What Are the Options?

- Walk Away From The Deal
- Traditional Due Diligence
- Environmental Insurance

#### **Traditional Solutions**

- Conduct an Extensive Environmental Site Characterization:
  - Costly
  - Time Consuming
  - May Not Have Access
  - Incorrect Assessment Possible

#### **Traditional Solutions**

- Negotiate An Agreement for Dealing With Pollution Conditions:
  - Time Consuming
  - May Not Resolve the Issue to Both Parties Satisfaction

#### **Traditional Solutions**

- Uncertainty About Levels of Contamination, Cost of Cleanup, and Unknown Claims
- Covers Only Known Conditions; New Conditions Subject to Uncertainty
- True Cost of Acquisition Not Known at the Inception of the Deal
- May Require An Indemnity

## <u>Traditional Solutions</u>

- Adjust the Purchase Price
  - May Not Have Sufficient Information
  - May Not Be Able To Agree On A New Price
  - Possibility Of A Bad Deal for Either Party
    If the Price is Adjusted Incorrectly

#### <u>Traditional Solutions</u>

- Create An Escrow Account
  - Ties Up Funds for A Long Period of Time
  - May Not Have Funds Available
  - Improper Escrow Amount
  - True Cost of Deal Not Known at Inception
  - Does Not Create A Final "Walkaway"
    Deal

- Benefits of Insurance
  - Financially Sound Business Decision
  - Quicker Resolution Than Traditional Methods
  - Shifts Risk of Due Diligence to Carrier
    - Unknown Liabilities
    - Improper Quantification of Known Liabilities
    - Regulatory Change orders

- Quantifies the True Cost of Acquisition
  - Allows Precise Quantification of Assumed Environmental Liability
  - Stabilizes Rate of Return on Investment / Share Holder Value
- Replaces or Backs-Up Indemnity
- Facilitates Financing

- An Entire Portfolio of Sites can be Included in the Deal (shared or individual aggregate)
- No Capital Tied Up in Escrow
- Minimize Reserves Carried on the Balance Sheet
- More Favorable Environmental Contingency Disclosure

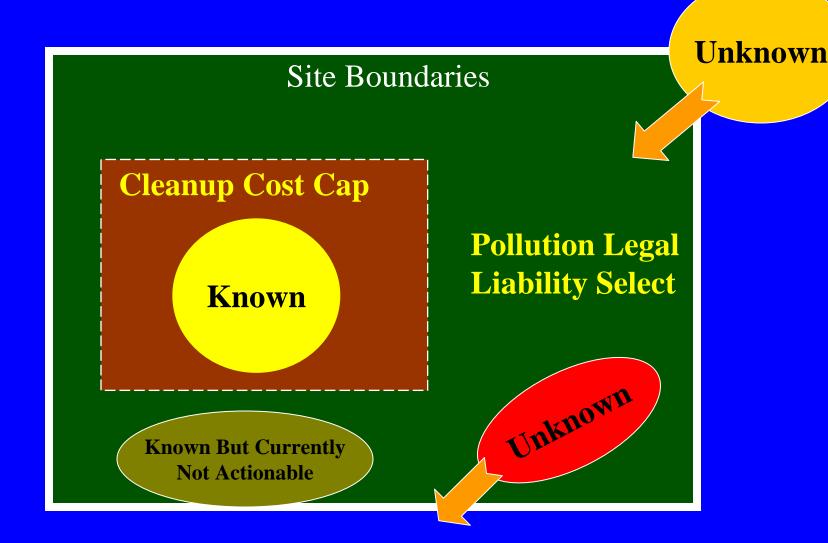
# Insurance Carriers

- ACE
- AIG
- ARCH
- Chubb
- XL
- Zurich

#### Insurance Products

- Pollution Legal Liability (PLL)
- Cleanup Cost Cap/ Stop Loss
- Blended Finite Program
- Lender Liability

#### **Known And Unknown Conditions**



- Traditional Insurance for Environmental Losses
- Losses More Fortuitous in Nature (Unknown)
- Coverage Available in a Menu Format
  - SELECT Only the Coverage Needed
  - Reduces Prices
  - Increases Flexibility

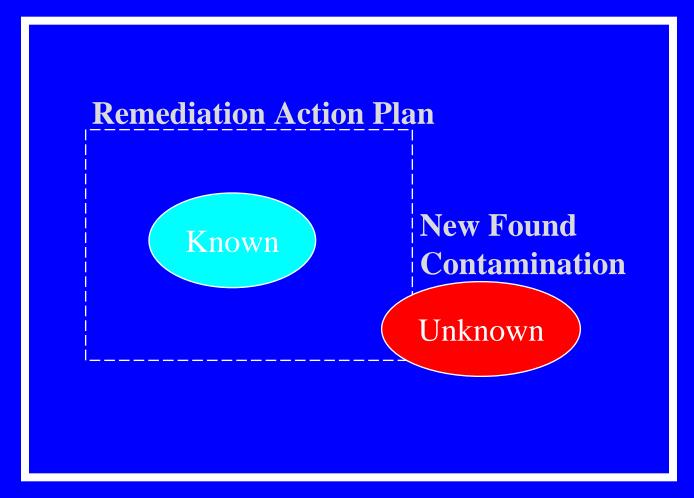
- Coverages Available
  - On & Off-Site Cleanup of Pre-existing Conditions
  - On & Off-Site Cleanup of New Conditions
  - 3rd Party Claims for On & Off-Site Bodily Injury and Property Damage
  - 3rd Party Claims for Off-Site Cleanup of Pre-Existing and New Conditions

- 3rd Party Claims for On and Off-Site Clean-up at Non-Owned Locations (Disposal Sites)
- 3rd Party Claims for On and Off-Site B.I.,
  P.D. at Non-Owned Locations
- Pollution Conditions Resulting from Transported Cargo
- Business Interruption

- Transaction Normally Requires
   Coverage for Losses Due to
   Unknown Conditions Which Exist at
   the Locations at the Time of Title
   Transfer (Retrospective)
- Can Be designed to Protect Both Buyer and Seller
- Options for New Conditions

- Can Insure Clean (perceived) as Well as Contaminated Sites
- Simple Application Process
- Site Characterization Requirements
  Determined By Carrier
  - Due Diligence Risk Transferred to Insurer

- Coverage Provided for Active Remediation Projects (known contamination)
- Caps the Cost Of Remediation at the Expected Price
- Ensures Proper Valuation of Deal
- Limits Liability for Excess Cleanup Costs



#### **Covers Remediation Cost Overruns for:**

- Actual Known Contamination Greater than estimated.
- Discovery of a New Contamination
- Regulatory Change Orders During Remediation
- Inefficient Cleanup

Cost Overrun Limits

Buffer Layer

**Expected Costs** 

#### **Basic Structure:**

- Coverage Attaches Above the Expected Clean Up and Buffer; (= SIR = Self Insured Retention)
- Premium Discounts are Available for Additional Buffer Layer and or a Pro Rata Co-Insurance
- Minimum Premium \$300,000

#### Blended Finite

Cleanup Cost Cap

**Funded** 

**PLL Select** 

#### Blended Finite

- \$5 Million+ in Remediation Costs
- PLL and CCC with the Expected Costs of Remediation Incorporated into the Premium
- Can Be Used in Conjunction with Qualified Settlement Fund for Accelerated Tax Benefits

#### Blended Finite

- Ideal for All Property Transactions;
  Liability Capped and Fully
  Transferred to Carrier
- Can Serve as Financial Assurance
- Long Term Policy 15 + years
- Combine with GIC for Longer Term

## Lender Policy

- Insures Lender
- Two Triggers
  - Default
  - New Pollution Conditions
- Term of Loan = Policy Term (15 years)
- Loss Payout = Lesser of Loan Balance or Cleanup Costs, LBO available For Cleaner Properties, Portfolios
- Industrial Sites/Exclude Known Conditions

# For more information...

- Gary J. Lutz
- Vice President
- Willis Risk and Insurance Services
- (213) 607 6283 Office
- (310) 570 8103 Cell
- gary.lutz@willis.com